

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) A brick tie for being interconnected between a brick wall and a back-up wall having a series of spaced apart studs and a wall board secured to the studs wherein each stud includes a pair of spaced apart flanges and a web extending between the flanges, the brick tie comprising:
 - a. a plate adapted to fit flush against the wall board, the plate including a back side and a front side;
 - b. a series of triangular shaped spikes cut from the plate and bent outwardly from the plate such that each triangular shaped spike forms a triangular shaped opening in the plate and projects outwardly from the plate adjacent the triangular shaped opening formed by the spike, and wherein the series of spikes project into the wall board and at least partially secure the plate to the wall board;
 - c. fastener openings provided in the plate;
 - d. a series of fasteners projecting through the fastener openings and through the wall board and into the flange of one stud for securing the plate to the stud via the flange;
 - e. a tie holder formed on the front side of the plate; and
 - f. a tie secured to the tie holder and freely movable up and down within the tie holder, the tie projecting from the tie holder and adapted to be secured between two courses of brick such that the back-up wall, including the studs thereof, is interconnected to the brick wall via the brick tie.
2. (Original) The brick tie of claim 1 wherein a series of said brick ties are interconnected between a brick wall and the back-up wall for forming a wall structure that includes the series of brick ties, the wall board, and the plurality of studs.

3. (Original) The brick tie of claim 1 wherein the tie comprises a generally V-shaped pair of arms with each arm including an end portion that is turned inwardly such that the end portions of the arms are spaced apart and generally aligned.
4. (Original) The brick tie of claim 3 wherein the plate is provided with four spikes.
5. Canceled.
6. Canceled.
7. (Original) The brick tie of claim 1 wherein the tie holder includes an elongated slot formed by a member that projects outwardly from the front side of the plate.
8. (Previously Amended) A method of anchoring a brick wall to a back-up wall having a plurality of studs and a wall board connected to the studs wherein each stud includes a pair of flanges and a web extending between the flanges, the method comprising:
 - a. aligning a plate of a brick tie with the flange of a stud and securing the plate to the wallboard about a side of the wallboard opposite the flange;
 - b. wherein securing the plate to the wall board includes projecting a series of spikes from a back side of the plate into the wall boards such that the plate is aligned with the flange of the stud;
 - c. wherein the series of spikes are triangularly shaped and cut from the plate and bent outwardly from the plate such that each triangular shaped spike forms a triangular shaped opening in the plate and projects outwardly from the plate adjacent the triangular shaped opening formed in the plate by the spike;
 - d. extending a series of fasteners through a front face of the plate, through the wallboard, and directly into the aligned flange of the stud;
 - e. extending a tie from the face of the plate outwardly therefrom to a position overlying a course of brick; and

- f. adding an additional course of brick over the tie such that the tie is sandwiched between two courses of brick and such that the brick tie interconnects the brick wall with the back-up wall.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 8 including cutting the plate in a plurality of areas and bending the cut areas from the plate to form the spikes.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 including forming at least four separate spikes and projecting the spikes from the back side of the plate; and securing at least two fasteners by extending the fasteners through the plate, through the wall board and into the aligned flange.
- 11. Canceled.
- 12. Canceled.
- 13. Canceled.
- 14. Canceled.
- 15. (Previously Amended) A brick tie for being interconnected between a brick wall and a backup wall, comprising:
 - a. a plate adapted to be secured to the backup wall;
 - b. one or more fastener openings provided in the plate;
 - c. at least one fastener adapted to project through the fastener opening for securing the plate to the backup wall;
 - d. a retainer associated with the plate;
 - e. a tie adapted to be held by the retainer and wherein the tie projects outwardly from the retainer such that the tie can be secured between two courses of brick; and
 - f. a series of triangular shaped spikes cut from the plate and bent outwardly from the plate such that each triangular shaped spike forms a triangular shaped

opening in the plate and projects outwardly from the plate adjacent the triangular shaped opening formed in the plate by the spike.

16. (Original) The brick tie of claim 15 wherein the tie includes at least one rib.
17. (Original) The brick tie of claim 16 wherein the tie includes a plurality of ribs.
18. (Original) The brick tie of claim 17 wherein the ribs extend transversely across the tie.
19. (Original) The brick tie of claim 15 wherein the tie is particularly configured to extend at least partially around the retainer such that the retainer holds the tie and the tie is permitted to move up and down on the retainer.
20. (Previously Amended) A brick tie for being interconnected between a brick wall and a backup wall, comprising:
 - a. a plate adapted to be secured to the backup wall;
 - b. at least one fastener for securing the plate to the backup wall;
 - c. an elongated slot formed in the plate;
 - d. a tie adapted to be confined in the slot and movable back and forth therein, and wherein when the tie is confined within the elongated slot, the tie extends outwardly from the plate; and
 - e. a series of triangular shaped spikes cut from the plate and bent outwardly from the plate such that each triangular shaped spike forms a triangular shaped opening in the plate and projects outwardly from the plate adjacent the triangular shaped opening formed in the plate by the spike.
21. (Original) The brick tie of claim 20 wherein the plate includes a raised surface and wherein the elongated slot is formed in the raised surface.
22. (Previously Amended) The brick tie of claim 20 wherein the plate includes a back surface and a front surface and wherein at least a portion of the front surface is raised, and wherein the elongated slot is formed in the raised portion.

23. (Original) The brick tie of claim 20 wherein the tie includes an inner end portion that is provided with a pair of opposed notches that retain the tie within the elongated slot.
24. (Original) The brick tie of claim 20 wherein the portion of the tie projecting from the plate assumes a generally L-shape.
25. (Original) The brick tie of claim 24 wherein the slot includes a surrounding edge and wherein a portion of the tie that projects into the slot includes a pair of spaced apart notches that are disposed adjacent an edge extending around the slot.
26. (Original) The brick tie of claim 20 wherein a portion of the plate, is raised and wherein the slot is formed in the raised portion of the plate and wherein the slot includes a surrounding edge; and wherein the tie includes an inner end portion that includes a pair of opposed notches and wherein the tie is confined within the slot by inserting the inner end portion of the tie into the slot such that a portion of the surrounding edge of the slot extends into the notches, and wherein the inner end portion of the tie can be moved back and forth within the slot, and wherein the notches are configured such that by rotating the inner end portion of the tie, the tie can be removed from the slot.
27. (Original) The brick tie of claim 26 wherein the tie is of a generally L-shape.
28. (Original) The brick tie of claim 27 wherein the tie includes a intermediate portion that is turned with respect to the inner portion, wherein the tie includes an outer portion that is turned with respect to the intermediate portion.